

REST IN PEACE



Your prayers are requested this weekend for Mary Ennis, Edward Power, James Costello and Sylvia Kelly whose funerals took place this week and for the souls of the following whose anniversaries occur at this time: Maureen O'Donnell, Emily Mahon, Elizabeth Mary Maguire, Ann Berney, Bernard Kelly, Joseph Mc Loughlin, John and Christina Heneghan, David Kiersey, Valerie and Brendan Doyle and Alice and Des Brennan

AND FOR THE SOULS OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED THAT THROUGH THE MERCY OF GOD THEY MAY REST IN PEACE. AMEN.

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CHURCH COLLECTIONS

The amounts collected last weekend are:

DATE	GREEN BASKET	WHITE BASKET
July 10th	€990	€775

The green basket is the collection for the support of the priests of the Diocese.

The white basket is the collection for Share, which meets the needs both of poorer parishes and of central agencies of the Diocese.

We thank you for your contributions to the Church collections and for your continuing support of all the collections.

A big thank you to all who have sent in Summer Dues donations.

**WEEKLY
BULLETIN**



***St. Mary's, Star of the Sea,
Sandymount***

Parish Office 6683894 / 6683316 – Monday to Friday 9.30 – 12.30
Fr. John McDonagh, Tel: 6684265 – Fr. Cormac McIlraith, Tel: 6686845
www.stmarysstaroftheseasandymount.com RCN 20016166

16th Sunday of the Year 17th July '22

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Grandparents' Day next Sunday

Next Sunday we celebrate World Day for Grandparents and Elderly. There is a National Grandparents' Pilgrimage to Knock that day and in Rome the Pope will lead celebrations to embrace grandparents everywhere, but here in our parish we want to mark it as a special day too.

The Parish Pastoral Council will be organising refreshments in the hall after the 10.30am Mass, to which parishioners are invited.

A children's book exchange will also be held. So we are inviting donations of children's books in reasonable condition, which may be left in a box at the back of the church during the week, or brought on the day.

Grandparents and grandchildren might invite each other to Mass that day and come along together as a family.

Parish Office closed this week

The parish office will be closed during this coming week, so if you need Mass cards signed or wish to arrange an anniversary Mass, please come to the sacristy immediately after weekday Mass is celebrated or leave requests for assistance on the answer phone. If your message is urgent phone 0868217682.

Renewing Services

Most parishes saw their services seriously affected by Covid. Our attendances remain somewhere between a third and a half of what they were before Covid came and locally services such as the shop, ministry to the sick, as well as Eucharistic and Word ministry have been constrained or suspended.

We hope, with the members of the Parish Pastoral Council, to rebuild in the early Autumn. So people might give thought now to the possibilities of joining a parish ministry- as Readers, Eucharistic ministers, Collectors, assistants on the shop area, membership of choirs, etc.

We have already issued invitations to the housebound to let us know if they wish to be visited with Holy Communion or opportunity to celebrate God's forgiveness in Reconciliation. Covid remains a reality and we don't wish to impose on anyone while it is so.

Others might give thought to membership of the Bethany Bereavement group, following training in Autumn. We have issued invitations to teenagers and potential animators who might like to participate in the **Laudato Si' award** recently announced by the diocese. We invited also in recent weeks any interest there may be in a group from the parish going with the diocesan **pilgrimage to Lourdes** in September (see notice board), or a young person's group engaging with the diocese in preparation for the World Youth Gathering in Lisbon in August 2023. Let us know if any of these opportunities interest you.

At another level, September will see the beginning of **courses affording a deepening of faith**. We mentioned a number of these in recent weeks also and this may be the time to give serious consideration to taking on such a challenge. Among those we highlighted were **Pathways; Exploring Faith and Ministry** (Thursday nights in St. Pat's Campus, Drumcondra), or a couple of Courses offered by DCU for which scholarship assistance was available.

Tap and Go in June

During the month of June, the Tap and Go machine in our parish collected €2,330 from 173 transactions. This is split 60% to the Common Fund and 40% to Share.

Now that we have resumed passing the baskets for these two collections at Sunday Masses, take on board that if someone uses the Tap and Go device to donate, they're not expected to donate again when the basket comes round. The person who passes the basket and doesn't put anything in may well have given very generously already. Let them feel very comfortable in doing so.

Venerable Mary Aikenhead's Day-next Friday

The Sisters of Charity have very kindly left material at the back of the Church relating to Mother Mary Aikenhead, their founder. You are welcome to avail of the prayer cards and novena prayer and other informative literature on the life of Mary Aikenhead.

Cholera hit this area of the city, Irishtown especially, in the early 1830s and it was the Sisters of Charity who led the hard and dangerous work of attending to victims and protecting the population at the time. It's a chapter of Dublin history that should never be forgotten especially in our parish. Next Friday, July 22nd is Mary Aikenhead Day. Her submission letter to the Commissioners of Inquiry into the condition of the Poor in Dec 1833 is a classic description of the appalling state of poor people in Sandymount, Irishtown, Ringsend and Donnybrook at the

time. Their Convent was established on Sandymount Ave three years earlier with a commitment 'to be ever ready to lend our humble assistance to those works of mercy which may tend to alleviate the sufferings of our fellow creatures of every creed'. In 1834 Mary Aikenhead opened St Vincent's Hospital, the first hospital in Ireland to be run by women 'for people of all creeds'. Previously her nuns had become the first to visit prisoners in Kilmainham Jail and she had opened a school for poor children in Gardiner Street. When our church was built in 1853 it was known as Irishtown Church until 1876. In that same year the sisters of Charity moved to Lakelands, which had been the home of Carmelites sisters until then. Mother Mary Aikenhead died in Harold's Cross on the 22nd July 1858. In 2015 she was one of seven persons declared venerable by Pope Francis. She and her sisters are worthy of our gratitude and admiration of their powerful witness.